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S. Deger-Jalkotzy – M. Zavadil (eds.)

## LH III C Chronology and Synchronisms

Proceedings of the international workshop held at the Austrian Academy of Sciences at Vienna, May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften philosophisch-historische Klasse Denkschriften 310 (Vienna 2003)

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LH III C CHRONOLOGY AND SYNCHRONISMS

EDITED BY

SIGRID DEGER-JALKOTZY AND MICHAELA ZAVADIL

ÖSTERREICHISCHE AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN  
PHILOSOPHISCH-HISTORISCHE KLASSE  
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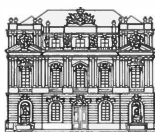
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ÖSTERREICHISCHEN AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN  
WIEN 2003

ÖSTERREICHISCHE AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN  
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# LH III C CHRONOLOGY AND SYNCHRONISMS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP HELD AT  
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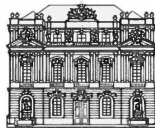
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## PREFACE

In 1999 the Special Project Group SCIEM 2000 ("The Synchronisation of Civilisations in the Eastern Mediterranean in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Millennium B.C."), supported by the Austrian Science Fund, was founded at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The speaker at SCIEM 2000, Professor Manfred Bietak, invited the Mykenische Kommission of the Austrian Academy to join the group. Although SCIEM 2000 mainly deals with the much debated relative and absolute chronologies of the transition from the Middle to the Late Bronze Age, a project called "End of the Mycenaean Culture" was included on suggestion of Sigrid Deger-Jalkotzy. This project deals with the 12<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C. (in archaeological terms Late Helladic III C, abbr. LH III C). This period, which followed the collapse of the Mycenaean palaces, was still Mycenaean in character. Yet it was an illiterate age, lacking in the higher cultural achievements and in the complex systems of social and political organisation which had marked the civilisation of the Mycenaean palaces. On the other hand LH III C was one of the most interesting periods of Greek history. It saw the transition from the Late Bronze Age to the Iron Age of Greece, and it brought about the gradual transformation of the Mycenaean cultural heritage into a constituent part of the classical civilisation of Greece.

However, the chronology of LH III C is still a matter of scholarly dispute. The far distance trade relations which the Mycenaean palaces had entertained with the political powers of the Near East and with Egypt had come to an end. As a consequence, there is a lack of contemporaneous oriental objects in LH III C contexts which could be used for the purposes of cross-dating and absolute chronology. Radiocarbon data, too, have so far been rare. Under these premises the relative chronology of LH III C rests upon the typological and stylistic evolution of the pottery found in settlements and tombs. It is, however, difficult to recognise a general evolution of LH III C pottery styles which could be translated into a satisfactory chronological system. Under these premises, no general consent has been reached on the phases and subphases of LH III C pottery chronology, although various chronological schemes have been proposed. The "End of the Mycenaean Culture Project" therefore concentrates on the promotion of a relative chronological system of LH III C which can be applied to all regions where LH III C cultural phenomena have become apparent: the Greek Mainland, the islands, Crete, Cyprus, and – in a wider sense – the Philistia and Italy.

Since we are convinced that this goal can only be reached by ways of an international scholarly dialogue, a series of workshops has been incorporated into the project's schedule. They intend to bring together scholars who have been studying and publishing recent evidence from new sites or unpublished material from old excavations. Apart from the presentation of papers it is the purpose of these workshops to initiate intensive discussions and exchange of opinions.

The first workshop was held on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2001 in the Austrian Academy of Sciences. It concentrated on Aegean regions, although one contribution already opened a view to the Philistia. The papers dealt with a wide range of subjects. Apart from the presentation of archaeological finds, new aspects of LH III C pottery developments became apparent from regions which had hardly been known before, and the methodological approach to the differentiation of phases within a given archaeological context



was reconsidered. As it happened, papers and discussions frequently circulated around the initial phase of LH III C pottery and its differentiation from that of the final stages of the Palace Period. In the course of a general discussion many questions were raised which proved to be of a wider interest and which could perhaps serve as a starting point for further research. It may be hoped that future Vienna Workshops on LH III C chronology will profit from the proceedings of the first one which we are presenting herewith.

It is our pleasant duty to express sincere thanks to the following institutions and individuals who have supported our endeavours with the organisation of the workshop and with the publication of its proceedings in various ways: the Austrian Academy of Sciences; the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture; the Austrian Science Fund and SCIEM 2000. – Ministerialrat Dr. Alois Söhn (Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture); Hofrat Dr. Margarete Bieder, Mag. Angelika Eckel, Dr. Martina Milletich, Hannes Weinberger (Austrian Academy of Sciences); Dr. Angela Schwab (SCIEM 2000). Mag. Nicola Nightingale and Adrian Melman kindly corrected the English text of some papers. Special thanks are due to Professor Jeremy B. Rutter who compiled the catalogue of subjects dealt with during the general discussion and which is presented in the final chapter of this volume.

Aigion, September 2002

The Editors

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ABBREVIATIONS

This list includes abbreviations of frequently quoted monographs, series and periodicals which are not included in the list of abbreviations published in the *American Journal of Archaeology*.

<i>AEMT</i>	<i>Το Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στη Μακεδονία και Θράκη</i>
<i>ArchEphem</i>	<i>Αρχαιολογική Εφημερίς</i>
<i>GSE II</i>	E. HALLAGER – B. P. HALLAGER (eds.), <i>The Greek-Swedish Excavations at the Agia Aikaterini Square, Kastelli, Khania 1970–1987. Vol. II. The Late Minoan IIIC Settlement</i> (Skrifter utgivna av Svenska Institutet i Athen, 4°, 47:2). Stockholm 2000.
<i>Late Minoan III Pottery</i>	E. HALLAGER – B. P. HALLAGER (eds.), <i>Late Minoan III Pottery. Chronology and Terminology. Acts of a Meeting held at the Danish Institute at Athens, August 12–14, 1994</i> (Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens 1). Athens 1997.
<i>MDP</i>	P. A. MOUNTJOY, <i>Mycenaean Decorated Pottery. A Guide to Identification</i> (SIMA 73). Göteborg 1986.
<i>Mediterranean Peoples in Transition</i>	S. GITIN – A. MAZAR – E. STERN (eds.), <i>Mediterranean Peoples in Transition. Thirteenth to Early Tenth Centuries BCE. In Honor of Professor Trude Dothan</i> . Jerusalem 1998.
<i>Meletemata</i>	PH. P. BETANCOURT – V. KARAGEORGHIS – R. LAFFINEUR – W.-D. NIEMEIER (eds.), <i>Meletemata. Studies in Aegean Archaeology presented to Malcolm H. Wiener as He enters His 65<sup>th</sup> Year</i> (Aegaeum 20). Liège – Austin 1999.
<i>Περιφέρεια</i>	<i>Η Περιφέρεια του Μυκηναϊκού Κόσμου. Α' Διεθνές Διεπιστημονικό Συμπόσιο, Λαμία, 25–29 Σεπτεμβρίου 1994</i> . Lamia 1999.
<i>Potnia</i>	R. LAFFINEUR – R. HÄGG (eds.), <i>Potnia. Deities and Religion in the Aegean Bronze Age. Proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Aegean Conference/8<sup>e</sup> Rencontre égéenne internationale, Göteborg, Göteborg University, 12–15 April 2000</i> (Aegaeum 22). Liège – Austin 2001.
<i>RMDP</i>	P. A. MOUNTJOY, <i>Regional Mycenaean Decorated Pottery</i> . Rahden/Westf. 1999.

## ABBREVIATIONS

EH	Early Helladic	LG	Late Geometric
EM	Early Minoan	LH	Late Helladic
EPG	Early Protogeometric	LM	Late Minoan
FM	Furumark Motif	MG	Middle Geometric
FS	Furumark Shape	MH	Middle Helladic
FT	Furumark Type	MPG	Middle Protogeometric
LBA	Late Bronze Age	PG	Protogeometric
LC	Late Cypriot	SM	Subminoan

## PROGRAMME OF THE WORKSHOP

The sessions took place at the Austrian Academy of Sciences at Vienna,  
Dr. Ignaz-Seipel-Platz 2, Clubraum.

### Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2001

- 09.15 Welcome-Address from Sigrid DEGER-JALKOTZY.  
09.30 Spyros IAKOVIDIS: *LH III C at Mycenae.*  
10.00 Katie DEMAPOPOULOU: *The Pottery from the Destruction Levels in Midea: LH III B2 Late or Transitional LH III B2/LH III C Early?*  
10.30 Ursula DAMM-MEINHARDT: *Evidence of Stratigraphy at the Beginning of LH III C from the Lower Citadel of Tiryns.*  
11.30 Spyros IAKOVIDIS: *LH III C at Perati.*  
12.00 Walter GAUSS: *Late Mycenaean Pottery from the North Slope of the Acropolis of Athens.*  
12.30 Florian RUPPENSTEIN: *LH III C vs. Submycenaean: A Methodological Problem.*  
15.00 Jeremy RUTTER: *What Do the Minoan Elements in Attic Mycenaean Pottery ca. 1225–1150 B.C. Signify?*  
15.30 Birgitta HALLAGER: *LM III B2 and LM III C Pottery in Kania.*  
16.00 Athanasia KANTA – Alexandra KARETSOU: *The Citadel of Kastrokephala and its Pottery.*  
17.00 Athanasia KANTA: *12<sup>th</sup> Century Stratified Pottery Groups from Crete.*  
17.30 Alexandra KARETSOU: *The 12<sup>th</sup> Century Pottery from the Peak Sanctuary from Juktas.*  
18.00 Anna Lucia D'AGATA: *LM III C–SM Pottery Sequence at Thronos/Kephala and its Connections with the Greek Mainland.*  
20.30 Dinner at a Viennese „Heuriger“ wine-tavern.

### Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2001

- 9.30 Reinhard JUNG: *LH III C at Kastanas and Ay. Mamas.*  
10.00 Fanouria DAKORONIA: *The Transition from LH III C to the Early Iron Age at Kynos.*  
10.30 Eva ALRAM-STERN – Sigrid DEGER-JALKOTZY: *LH III C Stratigraphy and Pottery Chronology of Aigeira/Achaia.*  
11.30 Andreas VLACHOPOULOS: *The LH III C Pottery of Naxos and the Cyclades.*  
12.00 Assaf YASUR-LANDAU: *New Developments in the Absolute Chronology of LH III C: A View from the Levant.*  
15.00–18.00 General Discussion.  
19.00 Visit to the fortepiano-Workshop of Gert Hecher.  
Dinner and End of the Workshop.

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